



Document Number: A-15
 Document Name: Parental Rights to Academic Accomodation
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1.0 Purpose

Wasatch Charter School recognizes that a student’s parent or guardian is the primary person responsible for the education of the student, and the state is in a secondary and supportive role to the parent or guardian. As such, a student's parent or guardian has the right to reasonable academic accommodations from the student's school as specified in this policy. The listing of rights in this policy is not meant to be exhaustive, and a student’s parent or guardian, as a user of the public education system, may have other rights or be entitled to other accommodations. Whether under this policy or otherwise, each requested accommodation shall be considered on an individual basis and no student shall be considered to a greater or lesser degree than any other student. *Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(1) (2014)*

2.0 Definition

As used in this policy, “reasonably accommodate” means that a school shall make its best effort to enable a parent to exercise a right identified in this policy (1) without substantial impact to staff and resources, including employee working conditions, safety and supervision on school

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premises and for school activities, and the efficient allocation of expenditures; and (2) while balancing (a) parental rights, (b) the educational needs of other students, (c) academic and behavioral impacts to a classroom, (d) teacher workload, and (e) the need to assure safe and efficient school operation. In determining whether a parental request will be accommodated in a particular instance, each of the above-listed factors should be considered.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1501(2) (2014)

3.0 Policy Content

Academic Accommodations

Wasatch Charter School shall reasonably accommodate the request of a student’s parent or guardian: 1. Made in writing to retain a student on grade level based on the student’s academic ability or social, emotional, or physical maturity; 2. Regarding initial selection of a teacher or request for a change of teacher; 3. To visit and observe any class the student attends; 4. Made in writing to excuse the student from attendance for a family event or visit to a health care provider, without obtaining a note from the provider (such excuse does not diminish expectations for the student’s academic performance); 5. Made in writing to place a student in a specialized class or an advanced course (the school shall consider multiple academic data points when considering this requested accommodation); and 6. To meet with a teacher at a mutually agreeable time if the parent or guardian is unable to attend a regularly scheduled parent teacher conference. *Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(2)-(6), (8) (2014)*

Testing Accommodations

Wasatch Charter School shall, upon the request of a student’s parent or guardian, excuse a student from taking an assessment that is federally mandated, is mandated by the state under Utah Code Title 53A, or requires the use of a state assessment system or software

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that is provided or paid for by the state. The school shall follow the procedures outlined by the state in R277-404-6 in excusing a student from testing under this policy. Parents or guardians must complete and return the Parental Exclusion from State Assessment Form on the USOE website to the Director at least one day prior to the assessment. The form must be re-submitted on an annual basis to exempt the student from assessments in future years.

School grading, teacher evaluations, and student progress reports or grades will not be negatively impacted by students excused from taking a required assessment.

WCS will not reward any students for taking federally or state mandated assessments.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(9).

4.0 Relevant Procedures, Guidelines & Restrictions

5.0 Policy Owner

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6.0 Exhibits / Appendices / Forms

7.0 Supporting Information

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